

NOTICE OF PUBLIC AVAILABILITY

Supplemental Environmental Assessment of ASIA TRAIL ELEPHANT FACILITY

National Zoological Park
3001 Connecticut Avenue, NW Washington, DC



January 18, 2005

Action: The National Capital Planning Commission (NCPC) announces the availability of the *Asia Trail-Elephant Facility, Supplemental Environmental Assessment (EA)*. NCPC, in coordination with the Smithsonian Institution (SI) has developed this document to assist in the evaluation of options for accomplishing relocation and construction of the exhibit area and the potential environmental effects of the preferred action. This EA has been prepared in compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 and regulations of the Council of Environmental Quality. The document also includes information important to the review process under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act.

Proposed Alternative: The proposed alternative is implementation of a new elephant facility to be constructed by the Smithsonian Institution adjacent to and north of Olmsted Walk near the Zoo's Visitors Center. This Supplemental EA builds upon the EA issued by SI in December 2003 for the development of Asia Trail, a modernization and consolidation of Asian-themed animal exhibits and infrastructure along a new elevated pathway south of Olmsted Walk. The Supplemental EA is available for public review at the following website:

- <http://nationalzoo.si.edu>.

Hard copies of the Supplemental EA are available upon request from John Gibbons, Office of Public Affairs at (202) 673-0209 or gibbonsjp@si.edu.

A Hardcopy of the EA will be available for public review beginning **January 14** at the following location:

- National Capital Planning Commission, 401 9th Street, NW, North Lobby, Suite 500, Washington, DC 20576

Comments and/or questions related to EA information may be sent directly to Asia Trail Elephant Facility Supplemental EA c/o EDAW, Inc. 601 Prince Street Alexandria, VA 22314. Email address: elephantea@edaw.com A fax number may be utilized at: (703) 549-5869. Information may also be submitted to Mr. Eugene Keller, National Capital Planning Commission, 401 9th Street, NW, North Lobby, Suite 500, Washington, DC 20576. Fax (202) 482-7272, or e-mail, gene.keller@ncpc.gov at any time. Comments will be received by the Commission staff until COB, **February 14, 2005**.